Message Text

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INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 IO-13 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 PA-01 SP-02 SS-15 NSCE-00 SSO-00 ICAE-00 INRE-00 /073 W

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FM AMEMBASSY LUSAKA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 8655

USMISSION USUN NEW YORK IMMEDIATE

INFO AMEMBASSY BONN

AMCONSUL CAPE TOWN IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM

AMEMBASSY GABORONE

AMEMBASSY LAGOS

AMEMBASSY LILONGWE

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY MAPUTO

AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY PRETORIA IMMEDIATE

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CAPE TOWN FOR EMBASSY

PRETORIA ALSO FOR AMBASSADOR LOW

E.O. 11652: GDS TAGS: PORG SF WA

SUBJ: NAMIBIA: MWALE DISCUSSES LUANDA AND SOUTH AFRICAN

MILITARY BUILD UP

1. FOREIGN MINISTER MWALE CONVOKED LOCAL CONTACT GROUP JUNE 13 TO BRIEF ITS MEMBERS ON LUANDA SUMMIT. HE STATED THAT HE DID NOT WANT TO GET INTO SPECIFICS ON WHAT WAS DISCUSSED IN LUANDA. THIS WAS THE RESPONSIBILITY OF NYERERE. HOWEVER, HE DID WISH TO CONFIDENTIAL

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EMPHASIZE HOW SERIOUSLY PRESIDENT KAUNDA TOOK HIS RESPONSIBILITY IN BRINGING ABOUT A NEGOTIATED SOLUTION TO THE NAMIBIA PROBLEM. HE HAD UNDERTAKEN WHILE IN WASHINGTON TO USE HIS GOOD OFFICES TO ORGANIZE A SUMMIT ON NAMIBIA IMMEDIATELY AFTER HIS RETURN TO LUSAKA. UNFORTUNATELY THE UNAVAILABILITY OF MACHEL HAD DELAYED THE MEETING. ZAMBIA BELIEVES THAT THE LUANDA DISCUSSIONS ENDED ON A HOPEFUL NOTE AND ONE THAT WOULD MAKE IT POSSIBLE FOR

MOMENTUM ON NAMIBIA TO BE MAINTAINED. MWALE SAID THAT PRESIDENT KAUNDA IN HIS JUNE 12 SPEECH WAS ATTEMPTING TO MAKE CLEAR HIS OVERRIDING INTEREST IN BRINGING ABOUT SETTLEMENTS IN COUNTRIES ON ZAMBIA'S BORDERS. HE ALSO WANTED TO INDICATE HIS SUPPORT FOR AN IMMEDIATE MEETING OF SWAPO WITH THE CONTACT GROUP.

- 2. MWALE THEN MOVED TO DEVELOPMENTS IN THE CAPRIVI STRIP. HE SAID HE WISHED TO ALERT THE GOVERNMENTS OF THE FIVE TO A SOUTH AFRICAN MILITARY BUILD UP IN THAT AREA. ZAMBIA HAD RECEIVED INFORMATION THAT OVER THE LAST WEEK THERE HAD BEEN A SIGNIFICANT INCREASE IN VEHICLE TRAFFIC TROOP MOVEMENTS OF ALL SORTS AND JET ACTIVITY. ZAMBIAN AUTHORITIES DO NOT KNOW EXACTLY WHAT THIS SIGNIFIES BUT THEY FEAR THAT IT IS A FORERUNNER OF AN ATTACK INTO ZAMBIA. HE WISHED TO MAKE A SPECIFIC APPEAL TO THE GOVERNMENTS OF THE FIVE TO TAKE STEPS TO PREVENT SOUTH AFRICAN MILITARY ACTION AGAINST ZAMBIA'S TERRITORIAL INTEGRITY. ZAMBIA DOES NOT WANT TO BE THREATENED BY SOUTH AFRICA WHEN IT IS ENGAGED FULLY IN TRYING TO FIND A SOLUTION TO THE NAMIBIA PROBLEM.
- 3. COMMENT: THE ONLY DISCERNIBLE REASON MWALE CALLED THE CONTACT GROUP WAS HIS GOVERNMENT'S CONCERN ABOUT THE REPORTED BUILD UP IN THE CAPRIVI AND PERHAPS TO EMPHASIZE HOW CONSTRUCTIVE KAUNDA IS PREPARED TO BE ON NAMIBIA. WE ALSO HAVE HEARD REPORTS OF A BUILD UP IN THE CAPRIVI, BUT HAVE NO IDEA OF HOW SERIOUS A THREAT THIS POSES TO ZAMBIA. CLINGERMAN

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